the end of the year. At present no proposal is under the consideration of the Government for making any additional allocation of funds to Gujarat.

Regional Imbalances under TUFS

4576. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are regional imbalances in availability of TUFS; and

(b) if so, what are the details of steps proposed to be taken by Government, to ensure equal spreading of benefits under TUFS to all States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Logically, the Scheme is coherent, demand-driven and space-neu tral for economic and functional orientation. Hence, there is no need.

Import duty on cotton

4577. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Maharashtra Government has requested Government to increase import duty on cotton, from 10 per cent to 50 percent;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) The Government of Maharashtra has requested the Government of India to increase the import duty without specifying the level.

(b) The Government of Maharashtra has stated that due to nominal levey of import duty at 10%, cotton is being imported at large scale, affecting the prices of cotton and interest of cotton cultivators and, further desired for incentives as well as increase in import duty.